The Clarion Call
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Newsletter of the Department of Massachusetts
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From the Department Commander

Greetings Brothers,

First a correction; I erroneously reported there were brothers from New Hampshire marching with the SVR on Memorial Day at Bourne National Cemetery. Aside from a few brothers who are dual members all SVR marchers were from the Department of Massachusetts.

As I reported by email the 142nd national encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War has passed into history. Held at Nashua, NH by all accounts it has been deemed a success. Brother Peter Hrisko of the Department of Ohio is our new Commander in Chief, with Brother Kevin Martin of the Department of the Chesapeake as Senior Vice-Commander. Our very own Brother Kevin Tucker was elected Junior Vice-Commander. Our Brother Rod Fraser was elected to the open position on the Council of Administration and our Brother Dan Murray will continue as National Secretary. The Department of Massachusetts had its full allotment of delegates and had 14. Probably around 18 brothers participating at some point during the weekend. With several

brothers in senior positions the department is well positioned to provide input to the national organization of the SUVCW.

One of the outstanding memories for me is the sense of camaraderie and fraternity that was evident throughout the encampment weekend. I am naturally shy and reticent but the entire weekend was a pleasant and fulfilling event whether watching or pitching in to help as needed. Sometimes just watching some of the larger than life characters make a few points was very amusing. It is my desire to foster a renewed fraternity throughout our department at any future event and most especially at our next department encampment. The Covid crisis certainly put a damper on gatherings everywhere over the last 3 years. Even before the crisis we were lucky to have 12 to 16 brothers attending our encampments; that is not even 10% of our membership.

To foster a renewed fraternity at our encampment we need commitments from you the brothers of our order. We have created an encampment site committee that is working diligently to find a new venue that will suit our needs and offer other activities for family and spouses. The department has funds available but we are conscious of fiscal responsibility as well and certainly don't want to overspend or choose a venue or entertainment too expensive for our members or budget. I would ask you all to think now about attending our next encampment in April 2024. Let us know directly or through your camp your ideas for entertainment or the banquet. The more commitments we have for attendance the more firm our planning can be. There are many brothers of the department that I have communicated with and never met. I hope as my term ends next spring to meet many of you in person at the encampment.

There are a number of grave dedications and cemetery tours coming up from Gloucester to Worcester to Rutland and North Adams. There will also be some exciting news regarding our department website as well.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

John Dupré

National Encampment Report

Our 2023 - 2024 National Officers

The National Encampment was held in Nashua, NH and we had a good solid turnout from our Department, led by Dept. Commander John Dupre. Major Highlights from the Encampment are:

- General Order #24aSeries 2022 – 20231 August 2023 Weapons Regulation was overturned by the Encampment and is no longer in effect.
- Membership qualifications; a change was approved by the Encampment to our membership qualifications. In order to join the order, you must have been born a biological male. If, after becoming a member of the SUVCW, you change your sexual identity, you cannot be removed from the order.
- Brother Peter Hrisko, Dept of Ohio, elected National Commander in Chief
- Brother Kevin Martin, Dept of the Chesapeake, elected National Senior Vice Commander
- Brother Kevin Tucker, elected National Junior Vice Commander
- Brother Daniel Murray reelected National Secretary
- Brother Roderick Fraser elected to the Council of Administration.

Brother Kevin Tucker - Camp 104

Brother Roderick Fraser - Camp 54

Brother Dan Murray - Camp 104

Brother Dan Murray playing with the Band at the Encampment Campfire

The Tuckers and Frasers at the Encampment Banquet

Brothers Charles Lewis, Al Smith, Ron Glidden and sister Sue Glidden presenting the colors at National encampment.

Swearing in of the National Officers

Gen. D.N Couch Camp 26 Participates in GAR Plot Dedication in Falmouth

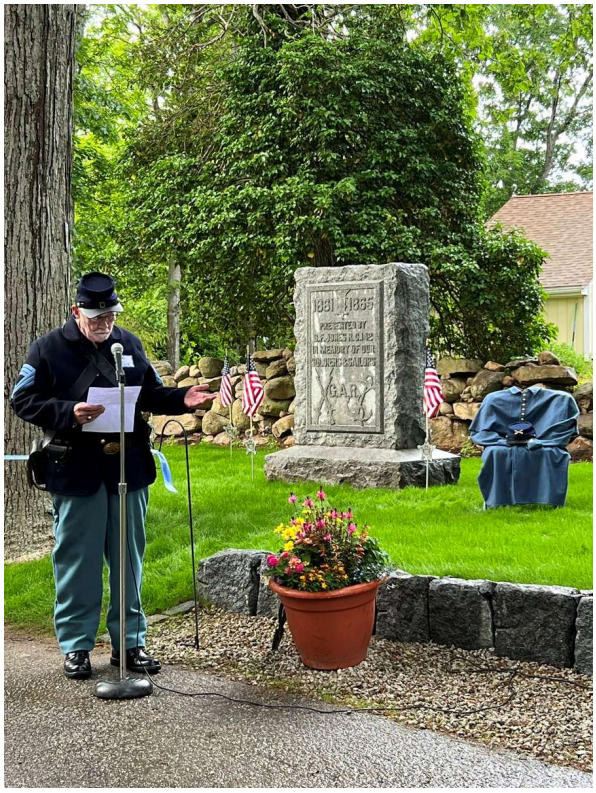
Representing the Dept. of Massachusetts SUVCW and General Darius Nash Couch Camp 26 (Taunton) Commander Michael Rice and Secretary-Treasurer Van Jabagjorian participated in the GAR Plot Dedication Ceremony at Oak Grove Cemetery in Falmouth, Massachusetts on June 10th.

Brothers Rice and Jabagjorian began the events by marching in the procession to the plot. In lieu of the full dedication ceremony with an honor guard, Commander Rice set up a chair with a kepi and greatcoat and recited “The Vacant Chair” followed by providing a formal reading to dedicate the plot. The head of the committee and committee members were very excited to have the successors to the GAR participate.

The ribbon cutting ceremony revealed a newly restored plot for local Civil War veterans. New markers were dedicated with recognition and a reading by Edwin (Scott) P. Zylinski II (U.S. Navy, retired). Falmouth select board member Colonel Kevin Doyle (U.S. Army, retired) shared the stories of four Civil War veterans from Falmouth: William T. Ford, William F. Jenkins, William H. Swift, and Andrew W. Davis. A heartfelt reading of the Gettysburg Address was delivered by Committee Member and Master Sergeant Major Bob Haskell (U.S. Army, retired). Immediately following the dedication ceremony, the procession passed by the grave of Falmouth's last surviving GAR member, Andrew W. Davis. A reception followed with a display of Civil War memorabilia and refreshments at the Elizabeth G. Parker Memorial Hall.

Oak Grove Cemetery is the final resting place for some 5,450 souls, many of whom are local, regional, and national renowned including Katharine Lee Bates who is the author of ‘America the Beautiful’. A total of 81 Falmouth residents enlisted to fight in the Civil War. Their actions included battles in Louisiana and the siege and surrender of Port Hudson on July 9, 1863. Approximately 620 are Veterans, which is the greatest number of Veterans in any cemetery on the Cape aside from the National Cemetery in Bourne. Designed in the Mount Auburn Style, Oak Grove is rich in New England history and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This non-denominational cemetery encompasses 22 acres and is managed by the Oak Grove Cemetery Association of Falmouth and its Board of Directors is composed of active members of the community whose priority is to preserve the character of Oak Grove Cemetery for future generations.

1861 1865
PRESENTED BY
IN MEMORY OF OUR
SOLDIERS & SAILORS
G.A.R.


1861 1865
G.A.R.

206
G.A.R.
G.A.R. HAT
WORN BY ANDREW DAVIS
G. A. R. Grave Marker

Private George Duggan Memorial Dedication

The First Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve participated in a dedication of a monument to Private George Washington Dugan, “the only native colored man who went to the Civil War from Concord,” in Concord, Massachusetts on Saturday, July 15th.

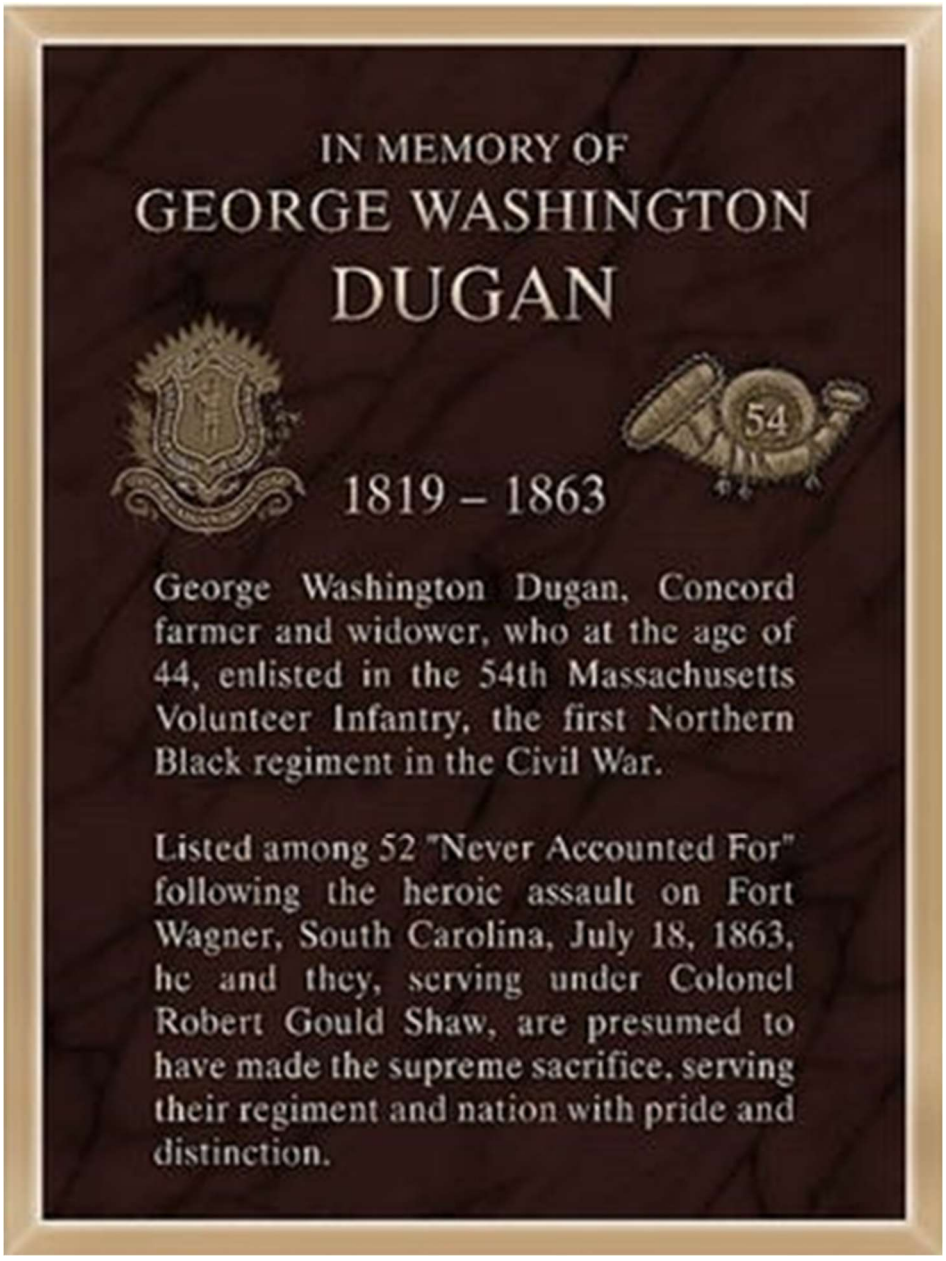
George Dugan, son of Thomas and Jennie Dugan, a 44-year-old Concord farmer and widower at the time of his enlistment, was assigned to Company A of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry, serving under Col. Robert Gould Shaw.

The 54th engaged in desperate fighting while storming Fort Wagner, South Carolina, on July 18, 1863. Listed on the unit’s official report compiled by Captain Luis Emilio, Dugan was among Shaw’s 281 men who formed on the beach below the fort and ordered to lie down with muskets loaded and bayonets fixed.

Dugan was listed as “Never accounted for” after the battle at Fort Wagner, and his name was left off of the Concord Civil War Monument, where men from Concord who were killed in action were engraved.

George Dugan was eventually declared, “presumed killed in action”, and now, 160 years later, the town of Concord, Massachusetts will be honoring him on July 15th.

IN MEMORY OF
GEORGE
WASHINGTON
DUGAN
CO A
54 MASS INF
CIVIL WAR
1819
JUL 18 1863
Kia


IN MEMORY OF
GEORGE WASHINGTON
DUGAN
54
1819 – 1863
George Washington Dugan, Concord farmer and widower, who at the age of 44, enlisted in the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, the first Northern Black regiment in the Civil War.
Listed among 52 "Never Accounted For" following the heroic assault on Fort Wagner, South Carolina, July 18, 1863, he and they, serving under Colonel Robert Gould Shaw, are presumed to have made the supreme sacrifice, serving their regiment and nation with pride and distinction.

Commander Dupre presents ROTC Award

Department Commander John Dupre' presented Cadet Sargent John Walsh of Hudson, MA with the SUVCW ROTC Award on August 19, 2023, on behalf of Camp 25 Commander Matty Sargent. Cadet Walsh is a student at Norwich University in Northfield, VT and is contracted with Marine ROTC. Walsh is an Eagle Scout and a graduate of Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School.

New Home for Camp 104 - The Concord Museum

June 22, 2023 – Brothers of Charles H. Bond Camp No. 104 met for the first time at the Concord Museum, 91 Everett Street in Concord, MA. The Concord Massachusetts Armory serves as a museum and archives for the Massachusetts National Guard, and contains some amazing historical artifacts, including numerous Civil War era sculptures, uniforms, documents, accouterments and more.

Brother Matthew Ahern, the Camp's newest Member and a National Guard sergeant who curates the museum, arranged for the Camp to use the facility for their meetings. Camp 10 had been seeking a new meeting location since before the Wakefield Museum closed due to COVID 19 restrictions in 2020.

Camp 104 Brothers toured the museum for an hour under the guidance of Brother Ahern, before the Camp meeting started. At that meeting, Brother Ahern was inducted into the Camp using the SUVCW ritual ceremony. This was an auspicious start to Brother Ahern's membership and for the Camp's future.

Charles H. Bond Camp 104 will meet at the Concord Museum on the last Thursday of every month, except in July and August, when it conducts graves registration in place of the business meetings.

Bust of Col. Robert Gould Shaw

Colors given to the Charlestown Artillery by the Ladies of San Francisco (Charlestown expatriates)

Bust of Gen. Samuel Crocker Lawrence, 5th Mass. Infantry

54th Mass Infantry uniforms

Camp 54 Yard Sign

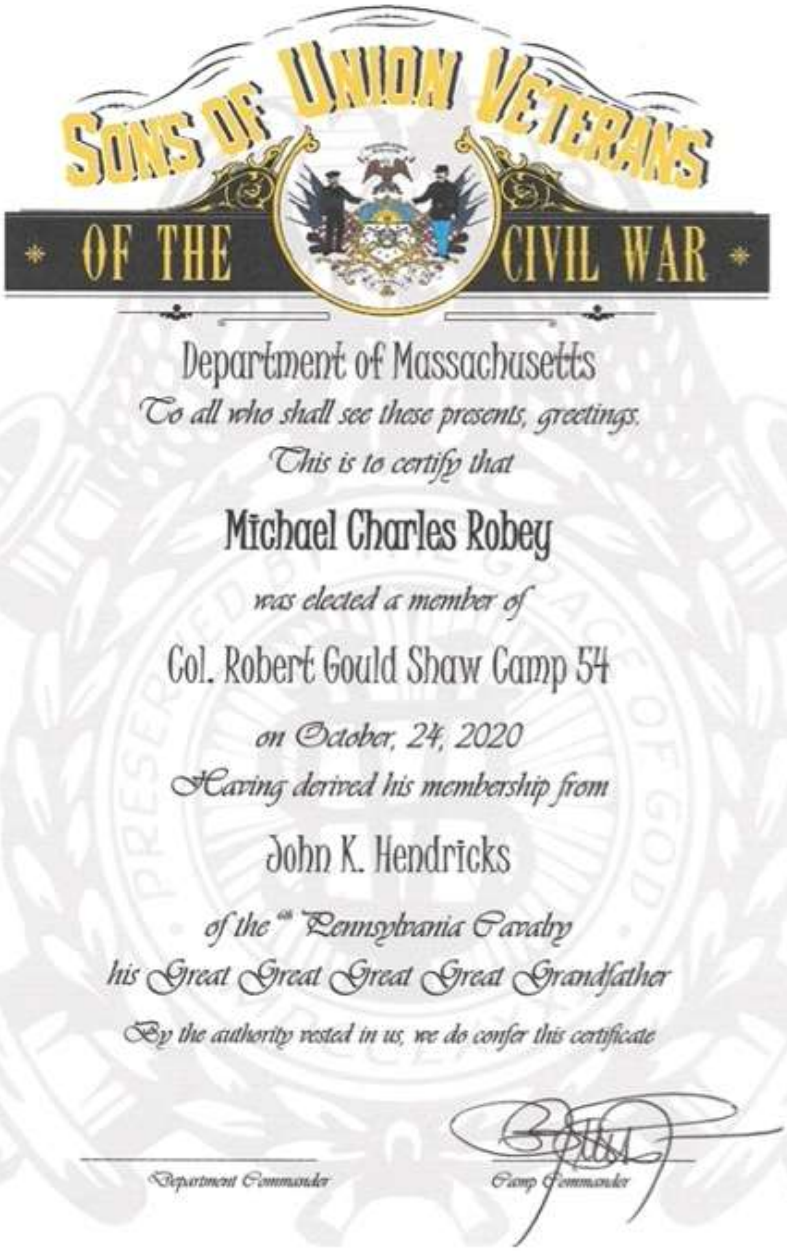
Camp 54 made up a large yard sign that they use whenever they are working out in the community in order to inform people who are passing by who we are. If you are interested in purchasing a yard sign for your camp, contact Brother Rod Fraser who can provide you the details where they purchased this sign.

We Now have Department Membership Certificates!

The Department has designed a membership certificate (see scan below).
To obtain a certificate for your camp members, you need to submit:

1. The Brothers full name as you want it to appear on the certificate
2. Camp Name
3. Date of membership
4. Qualifying Ancestors Name
5. Ancestors Regiment
6. Association/relation

Send the request to Brother Fraser at suvcwclarioncall@gmail.com
There is no cost for the certificate.


SONS OF UNION VETERANS
OF THE CIVIL WAR
Department of Massachusetts
To all who shall see these presents, greetings.
This is to certify that
Michael Charles Robey
was elected a member of
Col. Robert Gould Shaw Camp 54
on October, 24, 2020
Having derived his membership from
John K. Hendricks
of the 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry
his Great Great Great Great Grandfather
By the authority vested in us, we do confer this certificate
Department Commander
Camp Commander

The Archives Needs Your Help!

The Department Archives is looking to complete our collection of records in order to provide full resources to researchers. We are looking for the following volumes. If you have one or more of these and would like to donate them to the Department Archives, please contact Dept. Historian Peter Preble (rev.peter.preble@gmail.com or Dept. JVC John Wilder (jwwt2000@hotmail.com).

We are looking for the following volumes of annual proceedings:

SUVCW National: 1914-1917, 1982, 1987, 1990-1994, 1996, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2009-

SUVCW Massachusetts: 1988-2011, 2014, 2017-

GAR National: 1878-1881, 1883-1885, 1887, 1888, 1892-1894, 1896, 1899-1913, 1915-1932, 1935, 1936, 1938, 1939, 1943, 1947, 1950-

GAR Massachusetts: 1882-1887, 1889, 1891, 1892, 1896, 1901, 1905, 1907, 1948-

We are also looking for issues of "The Banner" pre-1908 as well as the following volumes:

"Massachusetts in the Army & Navy During the War of 1861-1865" volume 2

"Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors, & Marines in the Civil War" volumes 1 and 3

Annual Reports of the Massachusetts Adjutant General, full set of war years 1861-1866

As always we are happy to accept any related records or publications to add to our collection, thank you!

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